

1  
2 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
3

4 DISTRICT OF NEVADA  
5

6 CHRISTOPHER KELLER,  
7

8 v.  
9

10 TIMOTHY GARRETT,  
11

12 Petitioner,  
13

14 Respondents.  
15

16 Case No. 3:22-cv-00481-ART-CLB  
17

18 ORDER  
19

20 Following upon the entry of appearance (ECF No. 10) by the Federal Public  
21 Defender,  
22

23 It is ordered that the Federal Public Defender, through Kimberly Anne  
24 Sandberg, Esq., is appointed as counsel for Petitioner Christopher Keller  
25 pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B). Counsel will represent Petitioner in all  
federal proceedings related to this matter, including any appeals or certiorari  
proceedings, unless allowed to withdraw.  
26

27 It is further ordered that Petitioner shall have until up to and including 90  
28 days from entry of this order within which to file an amended petition and/or  
seek other appropriate relief. Neither the foregoing deadline nor any extension  
thereof signifies or will signify any implied finding as to the expiration of the  
federal limitation period and/or of a basis for tolling during the time period  
established. Petitioner remains responsible for calculating the running of the  
federal limitation period and timely asserting claims, without regard to any  
deadlines established or extensions granted herein. That is, by setting a deadline  
to amend the petition and/or by granting any extension thereof, the Court makes  
no finding or representation that the petition, any amendments thereto, and/or  
any claims contained therein are not subject to dismissal as untimely. *See Sossa*  
*v. Diaz*, 729 F.3d 1225, 1235 (9th Cir. 2013).  
29

30 It is further ordered that Respondents shall file a response to the amended  
31  
32

1 petition, including potentially by motion to dismiss, within 60 days of service of  
2 an amended petition and that Petitioner may file a reply thereto within 30 days  
3 of service of the answer. The response and reply time to any motion filed by either  
4 party, including a motion filed in lieu of a pleading, shall be governed instead by  
5 Local Rule LR 7-2(b).

6 It is further ordered that any procedural defenses raised by Respondents  
7 to the counseled amended petition shall be raised together in a single  
8 consolidated motion to dismiss. In other words, the Court does not wish to  
9 address any procedural defenses raised herein either in seriatum fashion in  
10 multiple successive motions to dismiss or embedded in the answer. Procedural  
11 defenses omitted from such motion to dismiss will be subject to potential  
12 waiver. Respondents shall not file a response in this case that consolidates their  
13 procedural defenses, if any, with their response on the merits, except pursuant  
14 to 28 U.S.C. § 2254(b)(2) as to any unexhausted claims clearly lacking merit. If  
15 Respondents do seek dismissal of unexhausted claims under § 2254(b)(2): (a) they  
16 shall do so within the single motion to dismiss not in the answer; and (b) they  
17 shall specifically direct their argument to the standard for dismissal under §  
18 2254(b)(2) set forth in *Cassett v. Stewart*, 406 F.3d 614, 623-24 (9th Cir. 2005). In  
19 short, no procedural defenses, including exhaustion, shall be included with the  
20 merits in an answer. All procedural defenses, including exhaustion, instead must  
21 be raised by motion to dismiss.

22 It is further ordered that, in any answer filed on the merits, Respondents  
23 shall specifically cite to and address the applicable state court written decision  
24 and state court record materials, if any, regarding each claim within the response  
25 as to that claim.

26 It is further ordered that any state court record and related exhibits filed  
27 herein by either Petitioner or Respondents shall be filed with a separate index of  
28 exhibits identifying the exhibits by number. The CM/ECF attachments that are

1 filed further shall be identified by the number or numbers of the exhibits in the  
2 attachment. If the exhibits filed will span more than one ECF Number in the  
3 record, the first document under each successive ECF Number shall be either  
4 another copy of the index, a volume cover page, or some other document serving  
5 as a filler, so that each exhibit under the ECF Number thereafter will be listed  
6 under an attachment number (i.e., Attachment 1, 2, etc.).

7 It is further ordered that the hard copy of any exhibits filed by either  
8 counsel shall be delivered—for this case—to the Reno Clerk's Office. Courtesy  
9 copies of exhibits shall not be provided.

10

11

DATED THIS 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023.

12

13



---

14 ANNE R. TRAUM  
15 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28